



TALES OF YANKEE ENCHANTMENT.

HOW NED KILLED

THE BIG BLUE WOLF

Maine Boy Who Won Reward of \$1,000.

BY CHARLES BATTELL LOOMIS.

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You boys who live in cities don't know what a nuisance wolves can make of themselves when they set their crafty minds to it, and even those of you who live in the wolf country or who have read the ripping good stories about them by Ernest Seton-Thompson will bag the blue wolf. There, take that scissor to your ma and tell her it's a quarter because it was very true.

After he had gone down the road with his quarter Ned went off to hunt up Carroll Milliken and Jed Wadsworth and finding them he told them the story with a delay.

"I'll bring in old Blueskin tomorrow. See if I don't," said Jed, boastfully.

"I'm most afraid to go, but if you fellows can go I guess I can," said Carroll, his rosy cheeks growing several shades paler at the thought of his Cerulean Highness.

That afternoon they made bows out of hickory wood, and strung them with whip cord. The next morning early, the day being Saturday, they left home without saying a word to any one and sat out for Tatham Four Corners. It was at the far end of the winter and

the roads were frozen here and snow covered there, but they didn't mind the mud and they liked the snow. Each boy had made his own preparations for the coming event.

"I've got a contraption that'll take me to the top of that elm quicker'n seat," said Ned.

"I hope mine will work," said Carroll.

Little Ned said nothing. At the sign post at the corners lay the hollow log and into it crept Carroll. It was a tight squeeze for he was a chubby boy but he managed to work his way in and then Ned went after him and as he was slim he had no trouble.

Ned had frightened some boys to notice that although the two boys were each four feet high and the trunk was only six feet long they didn't seem to be in a hurry. Ned didn't quite know what fear was so in he went.

A moment later all three boys found themselves in a field starred with crimson daisies so that the meadow looked aflame with the flowers. In the middle of the field grew the great elm, its top seeming to touch the clouds.

"Oh, how easy, how easily, easily," sang Ned, boastfully and he fitted to his knees climbers made of leather garters laced with sharpened horse shoe nails.

He sprang at the trunk and went up about ten feet and then he came down so hard that all climb was knocked out of him and he set his teeth and limped painfully away from the tree with a groan.

"It's hard work, but I think rubber sleeves will do it for me. I can't slip with them on," said Carroll.

He went up the trunk and he found it a wonder that he didn't break every bone in his fat body, for he came down like a pile driver.

"I guess I can't do it, as all I have is my two hands," said Ned, but he went manfully to work and to the great wonderment of the bigger boys he climbed that tree as easily as if it had been a fruit tree.

When he reached the top he found three branches that were shaped exactly like arrows even to the feathering. In each of these branches, one had a blue point and the other a red point.

"I bony the red one," yelled Jed from below.

"And I guess I'll take the blue one," said Carroll, and that left Ned with Hobson's choice or the white one. Personally, he would have liked the red one, but he didn't want to make a fuss or to break the tree, so he took the white one and he went down and then he slid down the trunk and fortunately reached the ground without falling, although his hands and knees felt warm from the friction.

"That's the highest tree I ever climbed," said Ned, with pardonable pride.

"If I hadn't slipped," began Jed.

"But we did slip," broke in Carroll, "and it was Ned who got the arrows. Now let's start for the wolf's den."

Before them, rising to a great height, lay a steep hill which they hadn't noticed before.

Jed rushed at it with his usual over-confidence and found himself sinking up to his knees in mud. Carroll ran to his assistance, but became mired himself. So Ned said, "I guess it will have to be taken slowly," and with that he gave them each a hand and bucked the hill with head down and sturdy, steady stride, and in a minute it began to rise like a billow and the three boys found themselves at the top. And there a view disclosed itself. For at least three miles in front of them the descent was steady and the whole country was covered with snow and with a few red crust, the very best kind for coasting.

"Oh, if we only had our sleds," said Carroll.

"Well, the matter with sitting down and sliding," said Ned, preparing to do so.

"Hold on," said Ned, "there's a shingle. On such a glaze as this that'll do as well as a toboggan. You boys make a double row of yourselves with the shingle under you and I'll sit on you and we'll go like this."

So Ned and Carroll locked legs. Jed sat on his stomach and Carroll sitting down and the shingle under them. Then with Ned in place on this human toboggan they went sliding down that front of a cave was the wolf, old Blueskin, eating a sheep.

Ned saw her first and he said, "Quick boys, unhook and roll off from the shingle, or you'll be in the wolf's den in less'n a minute. Get your bows ready and shoot steady."

The boys minded instantly and the three went rolling to one side while

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the shingle sped on alone and hit the wolf square in the nose.

That was unlucky, because she had not seen them before, being too busy with her dinner. But now she looked up and saw them and let out a howl that shook the hills and stayed in the boys' minds for many a long day.

"I'll fix him," said Ned, and he fitted his red arrow as he rolled and fired point blank at the big blue monster.

But, bless you, the arrow never went near the wolf at all, but overshot the mark and went over the rocks and at the same moment out from the den came Blueskin, as large as a St. Bernard, and as ferocious as a bloodhound.

And poor Ned couldn't stop rolling, he slid and rolled on into the arms of the whelp who fetched him such a blow on the head that it laid open his scalp and closed his mouth—for he fainted with pain and fright.

I dare say that Mrs. Blueskin told her son that they'd have an extra dinner in a few minutes, but for the present they must leave Ned alone and try to get breakfast and lunch out of the other kind little boys who had invited themselves to visit them and stay for meals. Certainly Ned was not touched after his head had been so banged, but Mother Blueskin made ready for Carroll, who with trembling fingers was fitting the blue shaft into his bow. He had managed to stop rolling a rod or so above her den, and he was alone. Little Ned had disappeared. Carroll was too badly scared to take accurate aim and whereas he meant to hit Mother Blueskin he keeled over the whelp who fell on its side with a fierce yelp.

When Blueskin saw her baby go down she ripped off his howl and that sent Carroll's blood coursing below freezing. She bounded at him with her jaws wide open and her red tongue lolling and her scarlet eyes blazing like fire brands. A few yards more and she would have been all up with the poor boy because the blue wolf was not thinking of food now; only of the loss of her whelp.

And she leaped at him and stretched upon him a white tipped arrow followed in her wake and caught her in the small of the back, which is a

hood, which is connected to a large exhaust fan taking the disagreeable and dangerous gases entirely outside the building, and discharging them from the rear. The tank, which is made of very violent, and it must be added in small quantities to avoid its boiling over the top of the tank. When the addition of fresh water to the acid is further added, the tank is filled with water and allowed to settle. The supernatant liquor is then drawn off through a pressure tank and is filtered and the residue again agitated with fresh water, this latter operation being repeated twice, to free them as far as possible of soluble salts. The slimes are then pumped into the press tank, filter pressed into cakes, dried, coarsely pulverized, mixed with a flux of soda, potash, and borax glass, and smelted in graphite crucibles in a double boiler. The product is capable of receiving two No. 300 crucibles at once. At this stage, before melting, the product contains 60 per cent of zinc, and the remainder being largely silicious slimes. The resulting bullion is 950 fine and is cast into bars of 1,000 ounces for shipment. This plan is the only one in the district refining its own product, all the other mills shipping to eastern refineries. The total cost of refining is about 15 cents per ounce of gold.

Cleaning Up.

Clean-ups are made monthly, and require about three days, working on the day shift only. The precipitating tanks are allowed to drain, and the water is scooped into pans after which the tank is washed out into the presses. At the same time the presses are opened and cleaned. The long time occupied in cleaning the tank is an account of having to clean one tank and three presses only at a time, so that the operation of the plant is only slightly inconvenienced.

The precipitates after passing rarely exceed 20 cents per ton in value and are usually lower. The consumption of zinc dust is about one and one-half pounds per ounce of gold recovered.

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blue wolf's most vulnerable spot, and she reared up on her haunches howling horribly, because she was so near of her terrible paws and saw Ned above the wolf den fitting his own white arrow into the bow for the ending of the wolf.

He had managed to steer past the mouth of the den and climbing the rocks behind it he had found Ned's red arrow. This had come in handy to the boy's life and now the white one, carefully aimed and sent with good will, entered the wicked brain of the big blue wolf and the farmers of Ocean county were free to keep all the sheep they cared to raise.

Jed had meantime recovered consciousness and rose to his feet saying: "Wait till I get another chance," but just then he saw old Mamma Blueskin and her offspring lying on the ground and knew that his share in the fun was over.

"You've saved my life," said Carroll to Ned, but Ned laughed in a shy way and said: "I wish we could come home with these wolves."

As he spoke the ground gave indications of rising as it had done on their way there. Quick wit, Ned made the boys pull the baby wolf's carcass out to the other end and all three boys sat down on them and in a jiffy the ground rose at least a thousand feet and tilted the hill the other way. Of course, with such a slippery crust of frozen snow the bodies of the wolves were as good as sleds and a little shove sent them off into the air and they fell like a meteor and in some unexplainable way they never stopped until they reached the town hall at Tatham.

It being Saturday the town was full of farmers who had come in to do their shopping and when the three boys came coasting down Main street on their new fangled blue double ripper, why the whole town went wild and the thing was too good for Ned and his friends.

And I want to tell you that Ned divided the reward equally with Jed and Carroll, so that each boy had \$33.33-1/3. And the reward of salt water was stretched on the front wall of the town hall, as any one may see who drives through Tatham.

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Probate and Guardianship Notices.

Consult County Clerk or the Respective Signers for Further Information.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT, PROBATE division, in and for Salt Lake county, state of Utah. In the matter of the estate of William A. Corless, deceased. Notice. The petition of William A. Corless, executor of the last will and testament of William A. Corless, deceased, praying for the settlement of final account of said executor, and for the distribution of the residue of said estate to the persons entitled, has been set for hearing on Saturday, the 26th day of May, A. D. 1900, at 9:30 o'clock a. m., at the county court house, in the court room of said court, in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake county, Utah.

Witness the clerk of said court, (Seal) with the seal thereof affixed, this 18th day of May, A. D. 1900. DAVID C. DUNBAR, Clerk. By ALBERT J. SEARE, Deputy Clerk. Stephens & Smith, Attorneys.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT, PROBATE division, in and for Salt Lake county, state of Utah. In the matter of the estate of William A. Corless, deceased. Notice. The petition of William A. Corless, executor of the last will and testament of William A. Corless, deceased, praying for the settlement of final account of said executor, and for the distribution of the residue of said estate to the persons entitled, has been set for hearing on Saturday, the 26th day of May, A. D. 1900, at 9:30 o'clock a. m., at the county court house, in the court room of said court, in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake county, Utah.

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